



POLICE COMMISSION

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 2, 2022 REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

Manchester Police Department
405 Valley Street
Manchester, NH 03103

The Regular Monthly Meeting was held at the Manchester Police Department Community Room on February 2, 2022, at 9:00am, attended by:

Commissioners John Cronin (via zoom), Eva Castillo, Charlie Sherman, Manny Content (via Zoom) and John Mercier
Police Department Staff Chief Allen Aldenberg, Assistant Chief Steven Mangone, Captain Christopher Goodnow, Captain Peter Marr, Captain Sean Leighton, Captain Shawn McCabe, Captain Brandon Murphy, Captain Kenneth Loui, Lieutenant Matthew Barter, , Heather Hamel (PIO), and Roxanne Pittman (Admin. Assist.)

Others attending the Public Session: Manchester business owner and blogger Jeff Hastings

1. COMMISSION CHAIRMAN OPENING COMMENTS

- Commissioner John Cronin opened the meeting at 8:56 a.m., welcoming all those present.

2. NOTICES POSTED / APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- The Commission confirmed with Roxanne Pittman that the notices had been posted at the City Library as well as on the MPD's website homepage, event calendar, and via social media.
- Commissioners present unanimously voted to approve the minutes from the 01/05/22 meeting.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Commissioner Cronin explained that each Manchester resident wishing to speak shall state his/her name and address, each will have only one opportunity to speak, and will be limited to three minutes in which to address comments on a particular subject to the Commission.

No public comments

4. DIVISIONAL REPORTS

Special Enforcement Division – Captain Murphy:

- The Special Investigations Unit continues efforts to disrupt the possession and sale of illegal drugs in the City of Manchester. Currently, the division is engaged in several investigations with state and federal partners. The Nuisance Address Policy is effective and the expedition in the eviction process helps with compliance.
- The Anticrime Unit continues to disrupt the illegal possession of firearms and investigate those individuals associated with gun related violence. The unit has several active investigations with state and local partners and continues to make arrests associated with gun violence and other related violent crimes.
- The Street Crime Unit continues to address the street level possession and distribution of illegal drugs as well as investigate numerous problem locations reported by the public. Substance Abuse Reduction Grant selected Officers are performing exceptionally. As a result of these efforts, the Special Investigation's Unit has shut down two high problem locations which involved multiple Citizen Complaints.

Questions/Comments/Discussion:

- Commissioner Sherman asked if The City of Manchester helps with this process and Captain Murphy explained that seized property is taken through the Federal Government; the U.S. Attorney spearheads the Asset Forfeiture Database and MPD receives a certain amount of monies from the process.

Legal and Professional Standards Division – Captain Loui

- There are currently 9 officers at the Academy. All are doing well and are on track to graduate April 22nd.
- Apex Simulator Training is scheduled for next Tuesday, February 7th. This will be a "Train-the-Trainer" course involving supervisors from all shifts. The goal will be to have the trainers come up with 1-2 training scenarios each month for officers to run on the simulator.
- On February 15th, the Moore Center will be sending personnel to train MPD instructors in de-escalation techniques with mental health issues.
- The Sexual Offender Compliance Unit has completed 184 registrations over the past month and performed 83 compliance checks. They issued 3 arrest warrants for noncompliance and made 4 arrests.

Questions/Comments/Discussion

- Chief Aldenberg responded to Mr. Content and Mr. Cronin with regards to the increase of sexual offenders being directly connected to the registering/checking in and fulfilling the requirement of the law.

Community Affairs Division – Captain Goodnow:

- Pending event within the next 30 days is Super Bowl Chilli 5 K (Arms Park) 400+/-runners.
- Fatal crash Beech St. and Harvard St. 1/23/2022.
- Traffic Investigators still working on several past crashes.
- Community Policing has no scheduled events in February.
- Community Policing working extensively with homeless Coordinator Schonna Green to address problems.

Questions/Comments/Discussion:

- No comments

Patrol Division – Captain McCabe

- Officer Hennessy is attending EOD School which started on January 24th and is a 12 week school.
- Officer Daigneault's partner K9 Oakley is scheduled to have surgery on the 15th of February to repair an ACL Injury.
- In the month of January, K9's were deployed 33 times for various calls for service.
- Patrol numbers on paper currently stand at 104 assigned. Patrol is utilizing 96 Officers divided into three shifts. These numbers will continue to climb over the next few months as we increase the compliment to the Patrol Division.
- There are currently 7 officers on FTO and have an approximate end date the first week of April.
- Patrol welcomes back Officer Belleza who has been on military deployment for the past year.
- One resignation to note is Officer Kosiorek as he resigned January 19. He has relocated to another State.

Questions/Comments/Discussion:

- Commissioner Sherman asked how many K9's there were and if they have a specific owner. Captain McCabe replied that there are nine. The Chief elaborated on the canine's management with regards to the mitigation for their safety and care up to and including the communication with neighbors and their training.

Investigative Division –Captain Leighton

- Lt. Loui has been promoted to Captain for the Legal and Professional Standard's Division. Lt. Houghton has replaced him and has worked for the Investigative Division before.
- A. Pereira has been brought back to NH on bail.
- Extradition has taken place for T. Johnson.
- Continuance of the Harmony Montgomery Investigation.

Question/Comments/Discussion

- Thank you to the Public for continued support with the Harmony Montgomery Case.

5. COMMENTS FROM ASSISTANT CHIEF MANGONE

- Congratulations to Officer Biery and all officers who received awards this past Monday. The actions they were commended for often go overlooked due to other events in the news.
- Officer Baur was sworn in on 1/31/2022. He is a certified Officer from Vermont and will begin FTO on 2/14/2022.
- 9 new non-certified candidates who were sworn in on 11/29/21 started at the State Academy in late January. The academy class was modified to a commuter style setting. The class is slated to graduate on April 22, 2022 and at that time they will return and begin FTO period.
- We currently have 14 active police candidates (4 certified and 10 non-certified) in the current hiring process.

6. COMMENTS FROM CHIEF ALDENBERG

- The Harmony Montgomery Case is the number one priority for the Detective Division. The award money is \$144,000 at the present time.
- The FY 2023 Budget is due to Mayor Craig on Friday, February 4, 2022.
- Contract negotiations for all three Unions will take place at the same time as contracts expire the same time.
- The 2021 Annual Report will be released mid-month as well as the Public Version.
- There are 17 vacancies to fill with the possibility of 10-12 being filled in March. The process takes a significant amount of time (6-7 months).

Questions/Comments/Discussion:

- The Chief responding to Mr. Sherman's question regarding whether or not non certified officers are employed by MPD right away? Chief Aldenberg stated the advantages and disadvantages of employing candidates before completing the academy in June; the advantages being cited as not losing the hire, acclimating the employee to the environment prior to the academy by involving them in report writing, evidence and community based policing to keep them engaged. The disadvantage is that an employee begins the probationary period before attending the academy.

7. COMMISSION ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

8. TENTATIVE DATE OF THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING

- Wednesday, March 2, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

9. END OF PUBLIC SESSION

- The Public Session ended at 9:35 a.m.